

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NSC-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

ERDA-05 NRC-05 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /074 R

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APPROVED BY C - MR. SONNENFELDT

AE - COL. GOLDSTEIN

MGEM BOWMAN

EUR - MR. LOWENSTEIN

NSC - MR. HADLEY

PM - MR. GOODBY

S/S- MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

CGUSASETAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 176389

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MNUC OVIP NATO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DONALD COTTER, ASST TO SECRETARY OF  
DEFENSE (ATOMIC ENERGY)

REF: STATE 167549; SECDEF 3977

1. WE ARE PROCEEDING TO FOLLOW UP ON REMARKS ON THEATER  
NUCLEAR FORCES BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AT NPG MEETING IN  
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MONTEREY. PRIME OBJECTIVE OF US EFFORTS WILL BE TO ENLARGE

NPG MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE REGARDING SPECIFIC FORCE POSTURE CHANGES AND IMPROVED DEPLOYMENTS, AS WELL AS DEVELOPING POLICY GUIDELINES FOR USEFUL EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS TO IMPROVE NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE. TO DO THIS, WE INTEND TO ENCOURAGE NPG COUNTRIES TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC IDEAS AND CONCEPTS. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WE INTEND ENLIST SUPPORT OF THE SEVERAL MINISTERS OF DEFENSE SO THAT THEY CAN PARTICIPATE IN DIALOGUE ON SPECIFIC FORCES AND GIVE APPROPRIATE DIRECTIONS FOR SUBSEQUENT STAFF WORK ON DETAILS.

2. SCENARIO FOR THIS PURPOSE INVOLVES, AS A FIRST EVENT, A VISIT TO EUROPE BY DONALD COTTER, ASST TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ATOMIC ENERGY) TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR FUTURE SECDEF DISCUSSIONS. THIS VISIT (SEE SECDEF 3977, 3 JULY) SCHEDULED 28 JULY-6 AUGUST, WILL ENABLE MR. COTTER TO CONFER WITH US

DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS, US MILITARY COMMANDERS, AND US MEMBERS OF THEIR STAFFS ON FOLLOW-ON ACTIONS TO THE NUNN AMENDMENT REPORT. MR. COTTER MAY SCHEDULE A SECOND TRIP IN SEPTEMBER TO CONFER SIMILARLY WITH ALLIED OFFICIALS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL. FOLLOWING THAT, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND MINISTER LEBER MAY BE ARRANGED PRIOR TO THE NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING IN THE FRG (POSSIBLY IN CONNECTION WITH TRIP BEING ARRANGED FOR HIS VISIT TO FRENCH MOD BOURGES).

3. MR. COTTER WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH YOU THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE GOALS APPROVED BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. YOUR REACTIONS AND COMMENTS ARE INVITED FOR USE IN DEVELOPING COORDINATED NUCLEAR POSTURE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ALLIES WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT REDUCTIONS CONTEMPLATED WOULD BE IN THE MBFR CONTEXT OR WOULD TAKE PLACE AFTER CONCLUSION OF MBFR.

4. WE RECOGNIZE FULLY THAT ANY FORCE POSTURE CHANGES WHICH THE US MAY PREPARE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED UNILATERALLY. THEY CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES, WITH DUE REGARD TO THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED BY THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. WE INTEND TO INITIATE THE DIALOGUE FIRST  
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WITH MINISTERS OF DEFENSE. ONCE MINISTERS HAVE AGREED TO A GENERAL APPROACH, THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL BE REQUESTED TO PREPARE SPECIFIC OPTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

5. AT THE SAME TIME, IN A PARALLEL TRACK, WE WILL BE PURSUING THE DOCTRINAL WORK WHICH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ALSO ASKED FOR, SUBSUMED UNDER THE HEADING OF PHASE III OF THE FOLLOW-ON USE STUDIES. WE HOPE THIS WORK WILL PROCEED TO-

WARD MORE USEFUL EMPLOYMENT PLANNING DIRECTIVES PREPARED IN NPG AND ISSUED BY THE DPC. THIS DOCTRINAL AND PLANNING WORK WILL FLOW FROM THE SAME BASIC GOALS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO FORCE POSTURE CHANGES. THESE GOALS WOULD ENCOMPASS A MORE SURVIVABLE, SECURE AND RESPONSIVE FORCE WHICH CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY TO ENHANCE THE DEFENSE BY CONVENTIONAL FORCES WHEN CALLED UPON. TO ACHIEVE THE SELECTIVITY AND FLEXIBILITY THIS REPRESENTS, THE FORCE MUST BE MODERNIZED. SIMILARLY, THE EMPLOYMENT PLANNING MUST BE MADE MORE CONSISTENT WITH THE PLANNING PRINCIPLES ESSENTIAL TO THE REALITIES OF MODERN WARFARE, SUCH AS THE ESCALATION CONTROL. INITIAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PURSUIT OF THE DOCTRINAL EFFORT HAS BEEN SENT SEPTEL. AS A FIRST CONTRIBUTION TO THAT EFFORT, AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF OUR ALLIES, WE WILL SOON CIRCULATE TO NPG MEMBERS AN EXPLANATION OF OUR BASIC GUIDANCE FOR US PLANNERS, THE "NUWEP" GUIDANCE.

6. WHILE THE BROAD DIRECTION FOR BOTH FORCE POSTURE AND DOCTRINAL CHANGES WILL BE INDICATED BY MINISTERS, THE SPECIFICS AS TO NUMBERS AND DETAILED PLANNING WILL BE REQUESTED FROM THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. WE HAVE ADHERED TO THAT PRINCIPLE IN CONSULTATIONS ON THE NUNN AMENDMENT REPORT, AND WE INTEND TO FOLLOW IT IN THIS NEXT PHASE AS WELL. WE APPRECIATE THE IMPORTANCE OF THOROUGH CONSULTATION AND ADEQUATE PLANNING PRIOR TO TAKING ANY CONCRETE STEPS. AS A RESULT OF INTERNAL US STUDIES AND STAFF WORK, WE FEEL THE TIME WILL SOON BE RIPE TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE NATO NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE WITH THE ALLIES.

7. WE WILL KEEP YOU FULLY INFORMED OF THIS WORK. YOU CAN CONTINUE TO ASSURE YOUR COLLEAGUES OF OUR INTENTIONS TO CONSULT FULLY ON ANY PROPOSED CHANGES IN POSTURE WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND WITHIN THE ALLIANCE STRUCTURE. KISSINGER  
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